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3 September 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, CS Historical Board  
Chief, CIA Historical Staff

SUBJECT : Status of Unfinished CS Histories

1. The attached tabulation represents our estimate of the status of currently unfinished CS histories by 31 December 1971. In the "Will be Published" category we have included those which will have cleared the components in final form and have been submitted to the Historical Staff for final editing, typing and publication. There are, however, unpredictable factors which will probably lead to a reduction in the total actually published by the December target date. (a). A few histories will most probably be regarded as deficient by the Staff and will be returned to the component for revision or rewriting. From past experience, component response in such cases may be delayed. It is impossible to predict in advance which these will be. (b). Final typing and binding of the histories is done in the Historical Staff. Our present typing staff (2 typists) would be unable to type and bind the draft histories now on hand by the deadline, not to speak of those that will be submitted between now and the end of the year. Many of the histories being processed in the Historical Staff and in the components are quite voluminous, running from 500 to over 1,000 pages. We are in continuing contact with various elements of the DDP with regard to our need for contract typists and hope to be able to augment our typing strength during the very active months ahead. Our editorial staff will also be hard pressed but editing will probably be less of a problem. If we estimate that a draft will be submitted in acceptable form for final processing and publication before 31 December, we have listed it in the "Will be Published" category.

2. Under the heading "Complete Draft" we have listed historical projects where a draft has been or will be completed by the historical writer but, we estimate, will not clear component review before 31 December. Review and clearance within the components are sometimes subject to

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extended delay. Also included are draft histories rejected for one reason or another by the Historical Staff which will probably not be re-worked by the component before the target date.

3. "Incomplete or not Started" includes delayed but active projects as well as those with no writers or writers assigned but inactive.

4. There are now 129 histories remaining in the program. Of these, we estimate that 36 will be published or in publishable form by 31 December 1971. The remaining 93 will be in various stages of component clearance, revision, inactive or not started. Of the 73 histories listed under "Incomplete or not Started" there are about 50 on which no substantial work has been or will be done by the end of the year.

5. Please bear in mind that these figures are approximate and subject to continuing fluctuation and revision. They are based on component estimates, adjusted in some cases by what we consider to be the realities. Histories are almost invariably completed some time after the date estimated by the writer, rarely before.

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Executive Secretary  
CS Historical Board

Attachment:  
Subject Tabulation